

JUNE 1972

TWELFTH YEAR — No. 135

international review of the red cross



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INTERNATIONAL REVIEW OF THE RED CROSS

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**FRENCH EDITION
OF THE REVIEW**

The French edition of this Review is issued every month under the title of *Revue Internationale de la Croix-Rouge*. It is, in principle, identical with the English edition and may be obtained under the same conditions.

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GERMAN

Rotkreuzexpertenkonferenz - Analyse der Debatten der 2. Sitzungsperiode - Ein neuer Film des IKRK.

**INTERNATIONAL
REVIEW OF
THE RED CROSS**

The International Review is published each month by the International Committee of the Red Cross

/ 7, avenue de la Paix, 1211 Geneva I, Switzerland
Postal Cheque No. 12 1767

Annual subscription: Sw. fr. 30.— (\$8)
Single copies Sw. fr. 3.— (\$0.80)

Editor: J.-G. LOSSIER

The International Committee of the Red Cross assumes responsibility only for material over its own signature.

Red Cross and Youth Education

by Sachiko Hashimoto

To have won the Henry Dunant Medal comes as more than a surprise. It is a great honour, an honour beyond my wildest expectations. I knew, of course, of the nature and origin of the Medal but only as an interesting fact that had nothing to do with me. Therefore, to be personally part of this great Red Cross event makes me feel very grateful and very happy indeed.¹

When I think of the first recipients of the Medal since it was established in 1965, I feel too humble for words. Of those four courageous men—all of them victims of their duty—three have passed away and the other is seriously injured. Compared to them, what dramatic incident, what life and death struggles have made me a fit candidate for this honour? My twenty-four years of Red Cross career have no dramatic effects . . . rather it has been a slow, uphill climb . . . difficulties, disappointments have barred the way . . . slow progress over a quarter of a century.

From the ashes of the war, I witnessed our Junior Red Cross reborn out of nothing. Those birth pains were followed by my country's growing pains: revolutionary changes in values, great and sweeping changes in educational policy, new approaches to social and family life. Through it all, our Junior Red Cross membership finally soared to 950,000 in 1965; only to come down at this

¹ In this same issue we are publishing an account of the presentation of the Henry Dunant Medal to Mrs. Hashimoto, whom we thank for her article. (*Ed.*)

time to 840,000 members. Why have we lost some of our young people? This question haunts me and keeps me looking for a reason and a solution. Could it perhaps be the price we must pay for our affluent society?

These are my concerns: the fate of young people—certainly they are not dramatic enough to warrant a Medal. I think of myself as a simple teacher. We teachers are plodders really: we have no moment of enlightenment, no nirvana. We plod along hoping to plant a seed here, raise an idea there, guide a young mind to something better. A plodder, trudging the slow path to some eternal truth. Confucious understood us. He said: "If I could find the eternal truth in the morning, I would be glad to die by nightfall". We plod on hoping to find that truth.

The unromantic may ask what good is a star. It's pretty enough but we can't touch it or feel it or hold it in our hands. Oh, but stars are as necessary as bread for a teacher. They are our ideals, our guiding lights. Unlike a great many things we experience every day, they never change. They lead us higher and higher. Our guiding star must be lofty enough to pursue for ever and important enough to require as much or as little of all of us: a lifetime's dedication, one yen flung in a box, one hour of time, or one act of thoughtfulness or kindness. I have found my star in the Red Cross. Its never-changing values have never led me astray.

But these beliefs are shared by thousands of Red Cross workers the world over. Surely they do not rate a Medal. This was my first embarrassed thought when I heard the news. Mr. Tanabé, Executive Vice-President of the Japanese Red Cross, helped ease some of my timidity by a chance remark: "I wonder", he said, "what the Henry Dunant Medal looks like? I've never seen it before." How fortunate, I thought, to be able to bring the medal to Japan for the first time.

Again, the Medal will serve yet another purpose in my country. In Japan, the name of Henry Dunant as founder of the Red Cross is virtually unknown. Rather, many people believe that Florence Nightingale founded our organization. I sincerely hope that the Medal will bring light on the name of Henry Dunant, who selflessly sacrificed possessions, worldly pleasures . . . all for the sake of his work. A man who in the lonely latter years of his life was discovered

in the Heiden Hospital. When he was awarded the first Nobel Prize, he insisted on contributing it to the cause preferring, instead, to be buried like a dog. That man is unknown in Japan. I sincerely hope I can shed some light on that noble name in my country. I should like to share the Henry Dunant Medal with all the Junior Red Cross teachers who have worked and sacrificed by my side over these years, and with the members and staff of the Junior Red Cross who will draw such strength from it.

I should especially like to share the medal with Mr Tadamasa Fukiura, an ex-Junior Red Cross member who has just reached the age of 31, the same age as Henry Dunant at the battle of Solferino, 1859. For me he exemplifies the spirit of selfless devotion embodied in the life of Henry Dunant. Mr. Kukiura answered the call from the International Red Cross for disaster service in East Pakistan, now Bangladesh, in 1971, during the Indo-Pakistani war. Mr. Fukiura is still in Bangladesh helping wherever and in whatever way he can.

Mr. Fukiura wrote me a series of letters from Bangladesh. They speak more eloquently than I could ever do of Red Cross spirit through action, of my teaching aims with young people, of the guiding purpose of my life . . . of my star.

The first letter, dated 13 October 1971 comes from Chittagong.

“ Everything has gone well for the past 17 days since my safe arrival here on 26 September in spite of my being desperately busy. I have volunteered to go to the Noakhali District, worst stricken by the cyclone and worst also from a safety viewpoint. For 10 days we have been reviewing the damage and distributing goods by ship. I was shocked at the countless number of dead and homeless. I have no words to say.

It was such an adventure to sail over the river in Paktuakhali at night, after persuading the captain who was reluctant to go because of the terrorists. The more danger we anticipated, the more challenged our relief team felt about the Red Cross, and the more strengthened became our trust in the Geneva Conventions.

To be practical, we decided to sail down the river with the spotlight on the Red Cross flag and with our flash light on all night, challenging the terrorists to be humane enough to respect the Red Cross emblem.

We first fixed the night watch. I was on duty between 2 and 4 a.m. While I was alone on duty, I continued singing the Japanese Junior Red

Cross song: *Hata wa juji no Ai: ne. Hata . . .* (The flag is of the Red Cross, the symbol of love.) I remembered that Mrs. Hashimoto once said she sang this when she was requested to sing a Japanese song in foreign countries. The memory made me feel a trifle sad and lonely. Close to the end of my watch, all was in complete darkness. To be honest, I felt helpless . . . utterly alone, when a young local interpreter prepared hot tea for me, bless his heart. Soon Hanna appeared, an American, and Hagstrom, a Swede. Their shifts were night. It was so dark that we sat close together on the top of the ship watching the Red Cross flag and the light shining on it.

When the sun rose over the fields that stretched as far as the horizon, we gasped together at the sight. I don't remember who started first, but we all joined in singing *We Shall Overcome*. The Red Cross emblem was flying proudly above, unharmed and our trust in its prestige was justified.

Then memories brought me back to my school days in Akita Prefecture, a rural area in the northern part of Japan, where I first learned about the Geneva Conventions with my Junior Red Cross teacher, Mr. Koji Yamaya. His field was not law, he had no special knowledge of the Geneva Conventions either, but he encouraged me so eagerly to study them and Pictet's basic principles of the Red Cross with the textbook prepared by Mrs. Hashimoto and Mr. Inouye, that I groped toward enlightenment with the help of this rural teacher. "

On reading this part of his letter, I was impressed by how important it is to teach young people the Geneva Conventions.

The need for Red Cross education in youth and childhood is greatly emphasised in Mr. Fukiura's letter of 23 January 1972, written just after the Indo-Pakistani war:

" . . . I have returned to Dacca on December 20th, as one of the five remaining delegates and have been able to store up the most precious experiences. We five are Alanko from Finland, 27; Janz from Austria, 28; Jean-Pierre from France, and me from Japan, both 30; and Koch from the Federal Republic of Germany, 35. All of us Young Power are Junior Red Cross graduates. Mr. Beer, Secretary General of the League, recently sent us a special letter of appreciation which is most encouraging.

Such difficult post-war problems as prisoners, repatriation, minority problems, refugees, medical services, care of the sick and the wounded, etc, are pressing in around us. But we feel strong and healthy. We can

trust to our experience in the Red Cross, our knowledge of Red Cross principles especially the Geneva Conventions. This makes our job easier, gives us confidence. I feel that there is nothing useless in my 15 years of Red Cross experience but it is not enough. Despite this experience, I feel helpless in this situation and need strength and ability. ”

I, too, feel very much like Mr. Fukiura: helpless and in need of strength and ability, a plodding teacher searching always, for the road of truth.

Some of the strength that both Mr. Fukiura and I seek can be found in the words of Henry Dunant. Some of the unpublished writings of Henry Dunant have appeared in a book and in the *International Review of the Red Cross*; one of them, entitled: “The Yoke of Preconceived Ideas ”, yields these truths:

“Our real enemy is not our neighbouring country. It is hunger, cold, poverty, ignorance, routine, superstition, prejudice. What can be said of the spirit of violence and destruction in war which makes ‘every soldier a professional killer’? Instead of striving together against misery and ignorance, men encourage each other and struggle to outdo each other in blind national fury, in senseless bloodshed, in really bestial slaughter, and not only do they kill each other during these crises of fratricide but even in time of peace they devote themselves with special care to advancing the applied science of destruction.”

These ideas are no longer preconceived in our time—they constitute reality. But there is another reality: the reality of five selfless young men from five different countries who in Bangladesh are even now co-operating for the benefit of strangers in a strange country.

In another letter from Pakistan before the war, Mr. Fukiura wrote:

“My work has been carried out successfully with joy and satisfaction. This is because of my success in organizing the Junior Red Cross in Hatia. For example, when we distributed saris, we could do so without confusion, using the principle of Due Proportion, that “The help available shall be apportioned according to the relative importance of individual needs and in their order of urgency.”¹ In order to practise this

¹ See Jean Pictet, *Red Cross Principles*, ICRC, Geneva, 1955.

principle of Due Proportion so that saris could be given first to widows who had lost family support because of the cyclone, we needed a list of destitute widows. I asked high school girls to help compile this list. I first got the support of the superintendent of schools on the island. Then, at the request of the principal of the high school, I made a speech about the Junior Red Cross. Two days later there was 100% enrolment in the Junior Red Cross. The women of this country hardly dare to appear or speak in the presence of men after 20 years of age, but those under 15 or 16 are quite active and willing to do volunteer service. Nearly one hundred girls came to help us daily from 7 o'clock in the morning. A young 26-year old school teacher directs them along with me. He has taught me a great deal and his dedication amazes me.

On the island, there are 78 schools, 60 of which are elementary schools. Only three are Junior Red Cross schools but the number is sure to increase. I constantly tell my teacher friend of the importance of life-long education through the Red Cross and training of youth by the Junior Red Cross. Even with educational materials swept away they have appetite for study—so much that they can still learn very well. Their growth is amazingly quick and they are creative enough to contribute their suggestions. It is most impressive to witness the obligatory demands that the Red Cross makes on youth.”

Thus, he continues citing many concrete examples of how valuable it is to grasp on to some meaning to life during the period of peak growth in body, mind and soul. The most unforgettable part of his letter to this old teacher was the following sentence: “Running into decision-making difficulties, I couldn’t help wondering: What would Mrs Hashimoto have done in this instance?” This statement makes me feel so humble and yet full of genuine joy and satisfaction.

For after all, what is life but a series of personal encounters, personal influences? How many times have we wondered: “What would my life be like if I had not met her or him?” In life we can only think in terms of individuals. If I have influenced one life, enriched one life by introducing it to the Red Cross, then I should think all is worth while. This is why I think the dissemination of Red Cross principles and, more practically, of the Geneva Conventions and Mr. Pictet’s basic Red Cross principles, is so important for young people to learn.

These ideas have a meaning for each individual, can influence the life of any young person. I don't mean we should make lawyers and philosophers out of all our young people. The Conventions themselves are merely words. They must be practised, first by the teacher and then by the student. It is only through this personal, direct practice of Red Cross principles that a young mind can be influenced. I believe Mr Pictet's principles are the best for young minds to study because in Japan they speak most eloquently and effectively to our teachers who are looking for some fundamental, solid truths on which to base their instruction.

There is a long way to go, such a long way that we had better set out in the right direction immediately. The Red Cross cannot solve the ills of the world, but at least it can certainly set it in the right direction, provide a compass with which to direct humanity. If we keep the Red Cross fire burning within us all along the way, there will always be light in any darkness, light to see the person before you and the person who comes after. One is never alone when one is part of the Red Cross family. It is a big family stretching across continents and seas. I am proud to be a part of it as long as I live.

Sachiko HASHIMOTO
Co-chairman of the
Japanese Junior Red Cross

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

REAFFIRMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW APPLICABLE IN ARMED CONFLICTS

CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENT EXPERTS

SECOND SESSION

It will be recalled that a Conference of Government Experts, convened by the ICRC, met in Geneva from 24 May to 11 June 1971.¹ At the closing meeting, the President of the International Committee announced that the ICRC had decided to convene a second session in the following year.

This session opened in Geneva on 3 May 1972 and closed early in June. It was attended by about 400 experts delegated by seventy-seven governments. The Conference was also followed by United Nations observers, nine technical experts in problems of medical transport, ten observers from non-governmental organizations, the League of Red Cross Societies, and several National Societies.

The Conference opened with a formal ceremony. Addresses were delivered—extracts of which are given below—by Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President of the ICRC; Mr. Henri Schmitt, President of the Council of State of the Republic and Canton of Geneva, and Mr. Marc Schreiber, Director of the United Nations Human Rights Division, representing the Secretary-General.

¹ See *International Review*, July 1971.

Mr. Marcel A. Naville:

It is almost a year since the opening of the first session of the Conference. It was attended by experts from thirty-nine governments, and it made possible a considerable step in the right direction: it will be recalled, in particular, that it approved two Draft Additional Protocols relative to the protection of the wounded and the sick in the event of international or internal armed conflict. In other matters submitted—the protection of the civilian population, the behaviour of combatants, the scope and status of medical aviation, the rules applicable in internal armed conflicts, and the reinforcement of the application of the law in force—in these various matters, the experts' work did not go so far, due to lack of time. Nevertheless, from their initial study emerged the lines of research to be followed and the objectives. They showed that solutions were possible and desirable.

These considerations led the ICRC and the experts gathered last year to the conclusion that a second session of the Conference was necessary.

When convening the present session, the ICRC complied with a recommendation, expressed by the great majority of the experts, to open the Conference more widely to the international community: on 27 September 1971, all governments of States expressly Parties to the 1949 Geneva Conventions were invited to send experts to this second session. I should like to convey the gratitude of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the States which have replied to its appeal and which have delegated here eminent experts whose co-operation and qualified opinions are essential to enable us to make progress along the course which we have set. Indeed, without the active support of governments, the work undertaken cannot be brought to a conclusion.

It is appropriate to survey briefly at this stage how our work has been proceeding over the eleven months between the two sessions. The ICRC first drew up a report on the work of last year's Conference. This document, which has been forwarded to all governments concerned, enables those experts who did not attend the first session to know exactly the subjects discussed and should permit more rapid progress in the consideration of

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some items which may be considered as having been settled; at least we hope so.

The proposal having been made last year that the ICRC draw up draft rules which should be as complete and as definite as possible, our jurists set to work on two almost complete Protocols, intended to supplement the Geneva Conventions, and the study of which will constitute the main concern of our proceedings.

That work was not carried out in isolation. Many experts in various countries have been consulted, both in Geneva and in their own cities. They have helped us to draw up the Protocols, bearing in mind, as much as possible, the various opinions expressed, and incorporating those most worth retaining.

In November 1971, the ICRC organized in Geneva a consultative meeting with the non-governmental organizations which, for many years, have displayed great interest in the work undertaken in connection with international humanitarian law and have contributed not only their moral support but also their experience and specialized knowledge. The results and recommendations of that meeting are also to be submitted to you in a report included in the documentary material.

So as to take into consideration the wishes of certain of those institutions which are carefully following the development of humanitarian law, and which previously had had the opportunity to comment upon the ICRC's draft instruments and reports, the ICRC has invited these non-governmental organizations to send observers to the Conference here. By attending the work of the different commissions, the representatives of those organizations will have the opportunity of being in direct contact with the discussions. It gives me pleasure to welcome them here among us and to tell you how much we have appreciated their co-operation and support.

The ICRC, moreover, at the beginning of this year, sent two missions which visited twelve African countries, in order to keep them informed of the progress in our studies and to further their interest in our common enterprise.

The ICRC is not unmindful, too, of the fact that the most fervent upholders of the reaffirmation and development of humanitarian law are to be found in Red Cross circles. It was therefore

eager to associate the National Red Cross, Red Crescent and Red Lion and Sun Societies in its work. In Mexico, in October 1971, at a meeting of the International Red Cross, and in Baghdad, in March of this year, at a meeting of the National Societies of Arabic-speaking countries, ICRC representatives presented a detailed account of the present situation of the questions under review. Finally, six weeks ago, the experts of thirty-six National Societies met in Vienna to carry out, together with delegates of the ICRC, a study in depth of the texts that are being submitted to you today, and valuable exchanges of views took place at the time. It must therefore be acknowledged that the ICRC has done its best to put before you drafts which have received widespread approval in the Red Cross world. It is with great pleasure that we welcome here a number of representatives of National Societies who will attend our meetings.

Concurrently and in close co-operation with the ICRC, the United Nations has continued to devote special attention to the various aspects of respect for human rights in armed conflicts. The Secretary-General of the United Nations presented a third report on this matter, the purpose of which was to provide the General Assembly at its twenty-sixth session with a survey of the results of the first session of the Conference of Government Experts and of other recent developments relating to the protection of human rights in armed conflicts. Two resolutions adopted by the twenty-sixth General Assembly, and with which you are no doubt familiar, invite the Secretary-General and the ICRC to continue the work begun, and express the hope that the second session of the Conference of Government Experts will result in specific conclusions and recommendations for the further development of international humanitarian law for action at government level. It moreover requested the Secretary-General to transmit to the ICRC his latest report together with any further observations received from governments as well as the records of relevant discussions and resolutions of the General Assembly.

Thus, the very fruitful collaboration that has been established for many years between the United Nations and the ICRC is continuing satisfactorily, and it is in this spirit that I am happy to greet today among us the representative of the Secretary-

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General, Mr. Marc Schreiber, and members of his staff, who are taking part in our work...

... We hope we have managed to provide conditions that will enable the Conference to achieve definite results. The ICRC is not the only one to set its hopes on that achievement. It knows full well that wide sections of world public opinion, a great many governments and numerous public or private institutions are impatiently waiting for new instruments for the protection of victims of war and for the safeguarding of fundamental human rights. Ladies and Gentlemen, in your deliberations you should bear in mind mankind's anxious hope. Your work should make it possible in the near future to hold a meeting of plenipotentiaries from the majority of States, in order that the new rules which the world is waiting for may enter into effect without delay. The International Committee can then consider that its efforts have not been in vain, and devote itself with increased energy to the further tasks with which it will then be confronted.

Mr. Henri Schmitt:

It is an honour for Geneva and for all Switzerland to welcome the Second Conference of Government Experts on the Reaffirmation and Development of International Humanitarian Law Applicable in Armed Conflicts. Our government and our people are aware of the role you are called upon to play in finding bases for treaties which will make it possible to eliminate some of the cruelty from the conflicts which unfortunately afflict the world, by establishing clear and precise definitions of the rights and protection of the individual when feelings run high.

In an age when everyone speedily becomes inured to the misfortunes of others, when this indifference to poverty, sickness, death and war is the reflection of our egotism and materialism, is it not worth making every effort to embody in law the obligations and rights of those who are victims of man's folly, by entrusting to the International Red Cross a new task which dovetails with the organization's traditional role since its inception?

In making our own modest contribution to the relief of suffering caused by man, we should be motivated by deep and sincere

emotion, which must be translated into determination to extend protection to people swept into chaos and want. The search for solutions which engage our conscience demands that our minds must be open and our hearts ready to accept feelings which so many people conceal under a shell of indifference or disillusionment. . . .

. . . An international convention, especially when it concerns humanitarian principles, can be effective only if the principles it contains are accepted and adopted by all peoples. It must be more than an arrangement between governments or a document on relations between military high commands. An extension of international humanitarian law of the kind that you are to discuss can be fully effective only if the principles that it defends are rooted in the will of the peoples that you represent. It is therefore necessary to guarantee the activities of Red Cross Societies in all our countries, for these Societies form the very basis of the work of the neutral and impartial body, the International Committee.

In the absence of an agreement prohibiting recourse to war, faced with the difficulties confronting the international community in its efforts to secure international peace, in view of the present inability of international penal law to impose respect for principles on which we all nevertheless agree, we must rejoice in the efforts being made to broaden a whole sector of international law which has successfully withstood the test of time. Here, I think, we must prove ourselves realistic and must, regardless of our governmental responsibilities, ensure the success of this work. I would go so far as to say that, in sparing more of our fellow men from the effects of war, we are reinforcing the efforts of those who seek to codify the suppression of war itself. . . .

. . . I believe that it is more necessary than ever before, from a legal point of view, that the absence of any distinction between friends and enemies should be stressed all the more strongly since, in undeclared wars, the official non-intervention of the State machinery leaves whole populations defenceless.

Although the revisions of 1906 and 1929 enabled international legislation to be updated while capitalizing, if I may put it that way, from the experience gained during the course of past wars,

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the fundamental nature of the Geneva Conventions made it necessary to take the further step constituted by the proposals being made to you now and which are much more than simply an adaptation of the Conventions which bind us today. It is here that the moral authority of the ICRC is exerted; Switzerland, and Geneva in particular—the headquarters of this international committee—will do everything in their power to reinforce this moral authority throughout the world. We are fully aware, as politicians, placed in responsible positions in this country, that the International Red Cross can ensure respect for the treaties and conventions which you prepare only to the extent that the Red Cross itself is respected and is able to offer guarantees of its impartiality towards everyone. This is one of the reasons for which we feel that the political neutrality of Switzerland is essential to International Red Cross activities and impact in the world; it is also the reason why Geneva, the European Headquarters of the United Nations, once again declares its readiness to serve those who work for peace or to mitigate the suffering which exists in this world. Neutrality and indifference are poles apart; indeed, neutrality must allow feelings to intervene in the madness of mankind. Neutrality is something active and is based on solidarity with the world, and it is in this sense that we understand the term. . .

Mr. Marc Schreiber:

. . . The second session of the Conference is indeed an important new step forward in the co-operation that has been established for some years now between the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross in the field of the protection of Human Rights in armed conflicts. The close and practical co-operation, stimulating sustained and fruitful efforts, corresponds to the wishes of the whole body of the United Nations members. In 1968, the International Conference on Human Rights, held in Teheran twenty years after the Declaration on Human Rights had been universally adopted, drew to the attention of the organs of the United Nations the importance of the adequate steps that could be taken to secure the better application of existing human-

itarian conventions and rules in all armed conflicts and the need for additional legal instruments to ensure the better protection of civilians, prisoners, and combatants in all armed conflicts and the limitation of the use of certain methods and means of warfare. The following year, additional impetus and new life to the work of the ICRC were given by the XXIst International Conference of the Red Cross, in order to supplement existing humanitarian law.

The United Nations General Assembly gave effect to the Teheran resolution, and at the same time as it invited the Secretary-General to undertake the studies requested and examined the problems arising in this field at each of its sessions, often giving them the highest priority, it noted expressly in several resolutions its appreciation of the work done by the ICRC. The General Assembly took good care that the resolutions and reports submitted to it should be transmitted to the ICRC and that it should be kept informed by the Secretary-General of the results of the work of the Conference convened by the ICRC. The representatives of the ICRC have followed carefully the discussions of the General Assembly and of the Commission on Human Rights on questions dealing with the protection of human rights in armed conflicts, and the United Nations Secretariat has kept in touch as much as possible with its opposite numbers at the ICRC on the work that has been undertaken by both sides quite independently of each other, but with an evident desire for harmonization.

This is not the moment to recall in detail the points at issue expressed in the various resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations. These form part of the Conference documentation. Two resolutions following two parallel lines of thought were adopted at the last session of the General Assembly on the general question of respect for human rights in armed conflicts. They requested the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly on the results of our Conference. On two occasions, the General Assembly expressed the hope that the Conference would result in specific conclusions and recommendations for action at governmental level in respect of the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law. A third resolution requested the Conference to submit its observations on

draft provisions to be included in an international convention on the protection of journalists engaged in dangerous missions in areas of armed conflicts, already examined by the Commission on Human Rights. The General Assembly recognized the need for such a convention and decided to examine this item as a matter of the highest priority at its next session.

There are two more remarks I should like to make. First of all, we need only look through the documentation provided to realize the usefulness of the first session of this Conference, held almost a year ago, and to applaud the extent and the quality of the work done by the ICRC since the Conference was adjourned. Even a cursory examination of the documents shows how far the viewpoints and opinions expressed during the first session have inspired the substance and the form of the proposals submitted by the jurists for our consideration. It is right to pay tribute not only to the skill and elegance with which they have composed difficult texts full of subtle distinctions but also to their wish to bear in mind as far as possible the various viewpoints expressed and the decisions made by international bodies. . .

. . . In closing, I should like to express the wish and the hope that, in carrying on our technical work based on the texts prepared by the ICRC and with the assistance which it so kindly provides, we never lose sight of those for whom this work is done, even if we do not mention them: the civilians, the prisoners, the wounded, the combatants themselves, often drawn helplessly into the throes of armed conflicts, the like of which only our age is capable of creating. The news media have reminded us enough of this during the past year and continue to do so every day. Nor do they disguise the disquiet among the public—more sensitive than ever before to the large-scale violations of human rights—who wish to safeguard and affirm the imperatives of human dignity and thus, without doubt, save civilization itself. The thought of the victims of armed conflicts should give us the determination to achieve acceptable results as speedily as possible, not merely to enrich international law, both present and future, but in the hope that our efforts will lead to the relief of indescribable misery and an end to shameful and purposeless humiliation and degradation. . .

... "Peace is the underlying condition for the full observance of human rights, and war is their negation"—as it is expressed in the Resolution of the Teheran Conference. Let us also think, then, of those who, whether at governmental or at any other level, attempt to stop armed conflicts, or prevent them from breaking out. In the tranquillity of this city, whose humanitarian traditions pay homage to humanity as a whole, let us do our best not to dash the hopes of people but to spread encouragement among them.

Following three plenary meetings, at which the Conference elected its Officers—Mr. J. Pictet (ICRC), President ; Mr. W. Riphagen (Netherlands) and Mr. Cristescu (Romania), Vice-Presidents ; and Mr. P. Gaillard (ICRC), Secretary-General—the subject matter of the two Draft Protocols prepared by the ICRC and additional to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, was divided among the four Commissions.

Commission I dealt with protection for the wounded and the sick in international armed conflicts. It is proposed to give civilian medical institutions and civilian medical personnel the same protection as military medical personnel have under the Geneva Conventions, and also to allow for a resumption of medical aircraft immune from attack.

Commission III studied the protection of the civilian population against dangers of hostilities. While the Geneva Conventions protect the civilian population against abuse of power by the enemy, they do not protect it, except in the case of hospitals, against the use of weapons.

Commission IV considered provisions designed to strengthen the application of existing law, supervision—e.g. the appointment of a Protecting Power—and the application of penalties.

Commission II dealt with the same subjects as the other three, but only in the case of armed conflict not of an international character.

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The ICRC is now preparing the final report on the work of the Conference. This will be sent at the beginning of autumn to all Governments and National Societies.

EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES

ICRC President in Iran

From 24 to 27 April 1972, Mr. Marcel A. Naville, President of the ICRC, and Mr. Claude Pilloud, ICRC Director, were guests of the Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society.

After being received by National Society leaders, the President of the ICRC was granted an audience by H.I.M. Mohammed Reza Shah Pahlavi, Shahinshah of Iran.

At government level, Mr. Naville and Mr. Pilloud conferred with H.E. Amir Abbas Hoveida, Prime Minister; H.E. Abbas Ali Khalatbari, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Dr. Manouchehr Shagholi, Minister of Health. In the course of these talks, the President of the ICRC reviewed the different aspects of ICRC activity.

Mr. Naville and Mr. Pilloud called on H.I.H. Princess Chams Pahlavi, Honorary President of the Red Lion and Sun Society. They had long talks with Dr. Hossein Khatibi, Director-General of the National Society, in which they discussed problems of common interest. They also met Mr. Jafar Sharif Emami, President of the Senate, and Mr. Abdollah Riazi, President of Parliament, both of them Vice-Presidents of the Red Lion and Sun Society.

Lastly, accompanied by Dr. Khatibi, Mr. Naville and Mr. Pilloud visited the National Society's headquarters and telecommunication centre in Teheran. They also visited the Senate building, where the XXIInd International Conference of the Red Cross will be held in the autumn of 1973. At Esfahan, the President of the ICRC and Mr. Pilloud visited the headquarters of the local Red Cross Committee and the Red Cross youth group, and the National Society's blood transfusion centre.

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Indian sub-continent

The ICRC is pursuing its duties in the Indian sub-continent.

On 29 April 1972, ICRC delegates in India and Pakistan again met at the border post of Wagah for an exchange of parcels and family messages for prisoners of war in both countries. Some 24,000 parcels, prepared by the Pakistan Red Cross and containing footwear and shorts, were sent to Pakistani prisoners in India, while 650 parcels containing tea and cigarettes were sent by the Indian Red Cross for Indian prisoners of war in Pakistani hands. In addition, more than 120,000 messages were despatched to either country. More than a million messages have been exchanged since the Central Tracing Agency and its local agencies started their activities in that part of the world.

On 8 May 1972, a further operation for the repatriation of wounded prisoners of war took place between India and Pakistan. The ICRC DC-6 aircraft carried thirty-seven Pakistani prisoners of war from New Delhi to Rawalpindi. Thanks to ICRC action, on 7 May a group of 270 tourists from more than twenty countries, who had been held up in India for many weeks, crossed the frontier at Wagah and proceeded to Pakistan.

Visits are still being made to prisoner-of-war camps in India and Pakistan. ICRC delegates have now visited all the Pakistani detention camps which the Indian authorities had brought to the notice of the ICRC. About forty such camps are scattered in the Ganges basin and hold some 91,000 prisoners of war and civilian internees.

In Pakistan, too, ICRC delegates have repeatedly visited Indian prisoners of war in prison camps. The ICRC is continuing to enquire into the living conditions of the Bengali minorities in Pakistan, and noting the registration of those who want to go to Bangladesh.

The ICRC delegates who remained in Bangladesh after the handing over of the relief operation to the National Red Cross

described in our last issue, are continuing their activities for certain categories of the population throughout the country.

The ICRC representatives in the Indian sub-continent are the following:

India (New Delhi): 1 head of delegation, 6 delegates, 1 doctor.

Pakistan (Islamabad): 1 head of delegation, 4 delegates.

Bangladesh (Dacca): 1 head of delegation, 14 delegates, 3 doctors,
4 delegates of the Central Tracing Agency.

Khmer Republic

From 5 to 8 May 1972, the ICRC doctor-delegate was in the province of Kompong Cham and visited the installations of the local Red Cross committee and of refugee centres.

On 14 April, he went to Battambang where he visited three centres for Vietnamese refugees. There are about 4,200 of them.

Laos

On 19 April, the ICRC delegate in Laos, accompanied by members of the Lao Red Cross, went to Paksane to visit refugees. A relief distribution was carried out there, and 265 families (about 1,300 persons) were supplied with clothing.

Malaysia

Early in April 1972, an ICRC delegate visited two places of detention in East Malaysia. At Kota Kinebalu (Sabah State) he saw 180 detainees, and at Kuching (Sarawak State) 1,352. They were detained for reasons or offences of a political nature.

He talked with detainees of his choosing, without any witness. The ICRC reports are sent to the detaining authorities.

Near East

Repatriation of prisoners

Under the auspices of the ICRC, an operation for the repatriation of prisoners took place at the Allenby Bridge, on 17 April 1972.

Four Israeli nationals who had been granted prisoner-of-war status by the Jordanian authorities while under detention were repatriated. Conversely, a Jordanian prisoner of war held in Israel was allowed to return to his country.

During their captivity, all prisoners were regularly visited by ICRC delegates in both countries.

Visits to prisoners of war

ICRC delegates in Arab countries again visited prisoners of war. As usual, they talked with captives without witnesses. The ICRC reports are sent to the detaining powers and to the prisoners' own governments.

In the Arab Republic of Egypt, on 12 April and 2 May 1972, they visited the ten Israeli prisoners of war interned in the Abasieh military prison, and in Syria, on 24 April, the three Israeli prisoners of war.

Reuniting of families

On 3 May 1972, a family reuniting operation took place at El Qantara, under the auspices of the ICRC. Forty-nine persons crossed over to the west bank of the Suez Canal, and thirty-nine to the east bank.

Israel and Occupied Territories

There were some incidents in the prison of the Sarafand military camp, where all Arab prisoners of war held by the Israelis are interned.

On 16 April 1972, three Syrian prisoners of war escaped from prison. One of them was recaptured on the same day. The ICRC delegates visited thirty-nine Syrian prisoners on the following day. On 18 April, the Israeli authorities informed the ICRC that they had decided to make a search following the escape. The Egyptian prisoners of war refused to comply, and a riot broke out, in the course of which a prisoner was killed.

The ICRC delegates again went to the camp to see the detainees and made a further visit on 23 April.

Under the auspices of the ICRC, the remains of the Egyptian prisoner of war who had been killed was repatriated across the Suez Canal on 22 April.

In accordance with Article 121 of the Third Geneva Convention, the detaining Power enquired into the circumstances surrounding the incident. The report will be sent to the prisoners' own government through the ICRC.

Jordan

On 24 April 1972, the head of the ICRC delegation in Jordan, accompanied by Dr. Ahmed Abu Goura, President of the Jordan Red Crescent Society, visited for the first time the Jafr prison in which several hundred people are detained for reasons connected with the events.

Southern Africa

Mr. Georg Hoffmann, ICRC Delegate-General for Africa, went on a mission to southern Africa in April.

First he visited the Ovambo Bantu Homeland in South-West Africa, the purpose of the visit being the development of the local Red Cross and, above all, first-aid training for Africans. He then proceeded to Rhodesia, where he was joined by an ICRC doctor-delegate and visited five places of detention holding some sixty persons detained under the emergency regulations.

Rwanda

The ICRC Regional Delegate for East Africa arrived in Kigali on 30 April 1972. There he called at the different Rwandese ministries and introduced the Regional Delegate who was to succeed him.

Accompanied by his successor and an ICRC doctor, he then visited the Ruhengeri prison, where he saw persons detained for reasons or offences of a political nature. A distribution of toilet articles and medicaments was made.

Burundi

Owing to the serious disturbances in Burundi, at the end of May, the International Committee sent out two delegates and a doctor, who were joined by a liaison officer from the League of Red Cross Societies. In addition to its traditional duties, the ICRC is carrying out a relief operation for the civilian population, in close co-operation with the Red Cross Society of Burundi.

A first emergency batch of medicaments has been sent to Bujumbura, and an appeal has been made to a number of National Societies to give support in the form of funds and relief supplies.

The Delegates in Latin America

The ICRC Regional Delegate for Latin America and the Caribbean is continuing the mission started on 7 February. From El Salvador he went to Guatemala, where he obtained from the Minister of the Interior a general authorization to visit places of detention. He visited six in the capital and in the provinces and saw several hundred detainees, about twenty of whom were being held for reasons or offences of a political nature, and distributed medicaments.¹

The Director of the Guatemalan Military Academy told him he agreed that a course on the Geneva Conventions be introduced in that institute. The Director of Red Cross Youth said that the school textbook *The Red Cross and My Country* was already being used in about a hundred schools in Guatemala City.

The ICRC Regional Delegate then proceeded to Honduras, where he met the Director-General of Health and a number of National Society leaders. On returning to El Salvador he again visited places of detention.

The ICRC Regional Delegate for South America started, on 8 April, a mission that was to take him to several countries.

In Bolivia, the delegate was granted general permission to visit places of detention. He visited six in La Paz and the surrounding area, saw several hundred detainees and distributed supplies. He

¹ *Plate.*

had already made stop-overs in Ecuador and Peru. In Quito, he conferred with the Ministers of Defence, the Interior, Production, Education and Health, and with the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs. In Lima, he met the Prime Minister and several senior officials of the Ministries of War and Foreign Affairs.

Honduras

In the campaign undertaken by the Ministry of Health in towns and in the countryside, the National Red Cross Society took an active part in vaccination against measles.¹ The campaign was conducted more particularly in the outskirts of Tegucigalpa, thanks to an ICRC donation of 1,500 doses of vaccine to the Honduran Red Cross.

Northern Ireland

ICRC delegates have made a further visit with the full concurrence of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland.

On 24 and 25 May, the Red Cross team composed of a delegate and a doctor-delegate, visited the Long Kesh centre, now the only establishment in Northern Ireland in which internees and detainees are housed. During their visit, the delegates were able freely to carry out their task and to converse privately with internees and detainees of their own choosing. As is the normal practice, the report of the ICRC is sent direct to the Government, represented by the Secretary of State.

USSR

On a private trip to the USSR, Mr. Max Petitpierre, member of the ICRC, visited the seat of the Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies in Moscow, on 18 May. He was received by Dr Nadejda V. Troyan, President, and other Red Cross leaders.

¹ *Plate.*

*IN GENEVA***Participation in Geneva Conventions**

The number of States parties to the Geneva Conventions is now 132. In a letter received by the Swiss Federal Council on 4 April 1972, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh declared that that State considered itself bound by the four Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the Protection of War Victims, by virtue of their previous ratification by Pakistan.

For Victims of Pseudo-Medical Experiments

The Neutral Commission appointed by the ICRC to decide on claims made by Polish victims of pseudo-medical experiments carried out in Nazi concentration camps during the Second World War, met at ICRC headquarters in Geneva, on 4 and 5 May 1972. It comprised Mr. Lenoir, Chairman of the Commission and Judge at the Geneva Law Courts; Dr. S. Mutrux, Assistant Administrator of the Bel-Air Psychiatric Clinic in Geneva, and Dr. P. Magnenat, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Assistant at the University Clinic of the Nestlé Hospital at Lausanne.

The Commission decided to allocate a total of DM 2,150,000 in compensation to seventy-six victims whose claims were considered valid. This brings the aid paid by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany since 1961 to Polish victims of pseudo-medical experiments to DM 38,435,000.

The President of the ICRC received by the Pope

His Holiness Pope Paul VI granted the President of the International Committee a private audience in the Vatican on 12 May 1972.

In the course of the audience, the Holy Father expressed to the President of the ICRC his appreciation of the activities which the ICRC was pursuing and which the Church intended to support to the fullest possible extent.

Mr. Naville referred to the ICRC's tasks in many parts of the world. He described the difficulties which the Red Cross was encountering in its humanitarian action but also recalled the gratifying results of ICRC activities in various countries.

The High Pontiff assured the President of the ICRC of his approval of the work done and said that the neutral character of the ICRC and of the activities of its delegates was universally recognized. There was nothing that could replace the Red Cross, he added, and the effectiveness of its action must be safeguarded.

Following the Hijacking of an Aircraft

On 10 May 1972, the ICRC issued the following press release:

The International Committee of the Red Cross was asked to act on behalf of the passengers and members of the crew of a Boeing of the Sabena air line held hostage by a Palestinian commando at Tel Aviv airport. With the agreement of the Israeli authorities and of the Palestinian commando and solely with the purpose of coming to the aid of innocent persons threatened with death, it agreed to serve as intermediary between the two parties.

The intervention of the Israeli armed forces took its delegates by surprise. The ICRC cannot admit that anyone should use its humanitarian action for military or political ends.

The ICRC therefore firmly rejects both the attempts to manoeuvre it and the accusations that it willingly lent itself to a manoeuvre.

Finally, it once again severely condemns acts of air piracy, the taking of hostages and any other attempts at blackmail that imperil the lives of innocent human beings.

The International Tracing Service in 1971

Under the 1955 Agreements, the duties laid upon the International Tracing Service (ITS), at Arolsen, the management of which was entrusted to the International Committee, were defined.¹

Far from diminishing over the years, the volume of work involved is still very considerable, as will be seen from the information given below :

In 1971, ITS received 127,872 requests, which was 4,543 more than it had received the year before. There was a considerable change in the categories of requests. For the first time, the number of requests for certificates of detention and residence, connected with the law on compensation which in 1953 came into effect in the Federal Republic of Germany, was no longer the largest (48,800 in 1971 as against 71,169 in 1970). There was a corresponding drop in the number of requests for death certificates (4,747 as against 7,173 in 1970) and in the number of requests for documents concerning cases of illness (4,958 as against 6,270 in 1970). On the other hand, the category relating to requests for the preparation of books in memory of victims of deportation, requests submitted by record services, requests from attorneys-general, and requests

¹ See *International Review*, June 1971.

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for information with a view to obtaining annuities and pensions, amounted to 57,914 units, which was more than double the figure for the preceding year. There were 1,315 requests for statistical and historical information, 749 for photocopies, and 708 sundry requests.

Finally, requests for the tracing of individuals increased considerably, rising from 5,640 in 1970 to 8,681 in 1971. Mr. de Cocatrix, Director of ITS, explained the increase by saying that the positive results achieved all over the world in tracing persons, thanks to the co-operation of numerous organs, particularly National Red Cross Societies, had led relatives to ask for missing persons to be traced so much later.

After considering all the requests received, ITS complied with 187,007 by issuing certificates of detention and residence, death certificates (established by the special registry office at Arolsen), documents relating to cases of sickness, reports, affirmative and negative replies, explanatory letters, and photocopies. In 1970, there were 169,106 replies. The reason was that ITS collected further documents containing supplementary information regarding previous requests.

In 1971, 1,158,591 reference cards concerning old documents and those more recently acquired were placed in the central index, which by the end of the year contained 36 million cards. These would cover an area of 4.5 km by 300 m² and call for a staff of forty-eight.

Lastly, reference should be made to the further acquisition of a large number of documents from concentration camps, the Gestapo, prisons and other places of detention, and general documents.

In the Near East during 1971

During 1971 the International Committee of the Red Cross continued, in Israel, the Occupied Territories and the Arab countries, its activities relating to the 1949 Geneva Conventions. This work consisted mainly in visiting military and civilian prisoners, transmitting family messages, organizing the regrouping of broken families and tracing missing persons.

Visiting military and civilian prisoners

ICRC delegates paid regular visits to prisoners of war. In Israel and the Arab Republic of Egypt, these visits were made fortnightly while in Syria they were monthly.

All captives received parcels and messages from their families to which they were able to reply.

The 72 Egyptian prisoners of war in Israel received over 1,000 parcels and 3,600 letters from their families and they in turn sent some 6,000 messages.

The 43 Syrian prisoners of war in Israeli hands wrote more than 2,500 letters to their families which had sent them some 500 parcels, and over 2,700 letters.

The eleven Israeli prisoners of war in the Arab Republic of Egypt received over 900 messages and 300 parcels and handed ICRC delegates some 250 letters for their families. The three Israeli prisoners of war held in Syria sent 210 letters and received over 80 parcels and nearly 200 letters.

During the year, several repatriation operations were carried out, enabling fourteen Egyptian prisoners of war including one invalid, ten Lebanese prisoners of war, one wounded Syrian prisoner of war and two wounded Israeli prisoners of war to return home.

The delegates were also concerned with the conditions in which civilians were being held in Israeli-occupied territories. Last year the ICRC made six series of visits to fifteen Israeli places of detention (seven prisons in Israel, six prisons in the occupied terri-

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tories and two camps in the Sinai peninsula, the latter being closed down during the year).

Parcels, containing mainly foodstuffs, were distributed monthly to those detainees who had not been visited by their families for three months. More than 7,000 parcels were thus distributed in a dozen prisons. Apart from this, other supplies such as warm underwear, books, fruit, cigarettes, school equipment, glasses and dentures were made available to the prisoners during the year.

As during the previous year, the ICRC delegation organized free bus transport for detainees' relatives unable to pay the fare to visit the prison. In 1971, 791 bus trips were made taking over 51,000 persons to the various Israeli prisons.

Assistance to families

Last year the ICRC continued to assist families in the occupied territories whose houses had been destroyed. This assistance, which was of the utmost urgency, consisted in distributing some 200 tents, 1,700 blankets and other supplies worth a total of 101,940 Sw. francs, in collaboration with the Israeli Social Welfare Organization.

Reuniting of families

The ICRC organized several family reuniting operations between the Arab countries and the occupied territories. In all, 834 persons, 287 in occupied territories and 547 in the Arab countries, were reunited with their families.

A country-by-country breakdown of movements reads as follows: coming from the occupied territories, 529 persons returned to the Arab Republic of Egypt while 173 persons crossed the Suez Canal in the opposite direction. From Syria, 50 persons went to the occupied Golan Heights. From Jordan, 64 persons were reunited with their families in the occupied territories and eleven others left the occupied territories for Amman. Seven persons from the occupied territories went to the Lebanon.

It should be mentioned that where Jordan is concerned family reunions are organized without the help of the ICRC which only lends a hand in particular or urgent cases.

Students' travel

During 1971, 1,676 Palestinian students from Gaza crossed the Suez Canal. During successive operations under ICRC auspices last August, 676 students studying in Cairo went to Gaza for their holidays and returned to the Arab Republic of Egypt in October; in September, over 1,000 students from Gaza went to the Arab Republic of Egypt to take up university studies.

At the same time a score of Palestinian doctors moved to the occupied Gaza-Sinai territories in order to practise there.

Transmission of family messages

During the year the ICRC handled 93,243 messages between the occupied territories and the Arab countries. Of the 45,263 messages sent to the occupied territories, 17,132 came from the Arab Republic of Egypt, 14,593 from Syria, 11,632 from Jordan, 404 from Lebanon, and 1,502 from the other Arab countries. Of the 47,980 letters in the opposite direction, 17,595 went to the Arab Republic of Egypt, 17,471 to Syria, 9,282 to Jordan, 1,340 to Lebanon and 2,292 to other Arab countries.

Tracing missing persons

The number of tracing requests submitted to the ICRC delegations concerning civilian and military persons reported missing during and after the war of June 1967 decreased sharply.

In 1971 the ICRC delegation in Israel and the occupied territories were presented with 27 requests concerning military personnel to which they were able to give 26 answers, and 172 requests concerning civilians to which they were able to give 112 answers.

The ICRC delegation in Cairo received 4,768 requests concerning civilians and 813 concerning military personnel and was able to give 3,883 and 797 answers respectively.

In Syria, the ICRC delegation received 667 requests concerning civilians and 558 concerning military personnel. It was able to give 478 and 531 answers respectively.

For the War Disabled

An ICRC achievement in Sana'a

At a ceremony held in Sana'a towards the end of March 1972, the ICRC formally handed over to the authorities in the Yemen Arab Republic the workshop which it had opened in 1970 for the manufacture of artificial limbs for the war disabled in that country.

Under the responsibility of the Ministry of Health, the Yemeni employees will henceforth use the skill they acquired in the workshop and in which five of them, thanks to grants, received further training at the Teheran specialized centre of the Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society. The orthopaedic technician delegated by the ICRC will stay in Sana'a for another six months, under an agreement with the Yemeni Government and the World Health Organization, which is providing assistance. This decision was reached with a view to easing the transitional phase.

It is a Red Cross tradition that any work started is handed over to others as soon as they are able to take over. In this particular case, an official Yemeni service took over the workshop in April, and so the action launched by the ICRC in Yemen goes on. The *International Review* has already described this action;¹ some further particulars will bear witness to its effectiveness.

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It was through its delegation in Yemen that the ICRC learnt that there were many people in that country who had had one or even two limbs amputated, as a result of the war. There was no means of manufacturing artificial limbs locally, so in 1968 the

¹ See, in particular, *International Review*, October 1970.

Government of Yemen asked for Red Cross assistance. After a careful study, the ICRC secured the services of Mr. Gehrels, a technician specialized in the manufacture of prostheses. He arrived in Sana'a in 1970, set up a workshop and began to recruit Yemenis who were taught how to manufacture, fit and apply the prostheses.¹ In July, a physiotherapist joined him and started a department where amputees were prepared for the use of an artificial limb through appropriate exercises, massage and sports.

By the end of April 1972, twenty-two Yemenis were working at the Rehabilitation Centre—seventeen in the artificial limb workshop, three in the physiotherapy section, and two in administrative jobs.

By then 202 artificial limbs and thirty-one orthoses had been completed, and 306 disabled persons were due to undergo training in the wearing of the appliances.

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Thus it was that two specialists, an orthopaedist and a physiotherapist, started and developed in Sana'a ICRC work for war disabled. In the second issue of *Aspects*, a review whose recent publication we are glad to report, Mr. J. D. Ducret describes the patients whom he had occasion to observe during the two years he spent among them in Sana'a:

“ A long dark corridor leads to a small office: that is the first link in the chain, often the culmination of a long journey on donkey or camel-back that ends on all fours or on one leg, leaning on friends, guns and side arms having been left with the guard.

Someone calls me. After a summary examination of the new arrival, a conversation starts with the help of the English-speaking secretary: “ What is your name ? ” “ Lotif Al Zubeiri. ” “ Your age ? ” “ I don't know... ” “ Well, how old are you more or less ? ” “ Maybe thirty or forty. ” “ Let's say thirty-five then ! How long ago were you amputated, and why ? ” And so on and so forth.

More than three hundred have registered in this way (and there are said to be over a thousand war amputees in Yemen).

¹ *Plate.*

Three or four months may elapse between registration and the beginning of treatment. Usually only those who have had two limbs amputated have preferential treatment. In October 1970, a public transport bus blew up on an anti-tank mine, between Sana'a and Taiz. About twenty were killed and sixty injured, and among these were half a dozen amputees. They were immediately sent to us, and some of them—including the bus driver—have already left the Centre on their two artificial legs.

Like some "*Cour des Miracles*",¹ at 7.30 a.m. the entrance to the Centre is already crowded with handicapped people waiting for their training. It is an odd medley of every type of distress existing in Yemen, the sequelae of a civil war which lasted seven years. The Centre was specially constructed. It is as close a reproduction as possible of the terrain on which the disabled will have to walk in a land of mountains and desert. There is a sports ground, too, for badminton and football. These games are part of the last phase of treatment, when the patient can already walk properly on level ground or in the physiotherapy room. Each group of four takes half an hour's exercise. Amputees go from pulley-therapy to gym mats, and of course there is skipping, hopping and the parallel bars.

All of this is done in a thoroughly relaxed atmosphere, under the supervision of Saleh Mohammed Al Bariki, himself an amputee, who was equipped and trained at the Centre as an auxiliary physiotherapist. This young man of twenty-five, who in his village was a sheik, has great influence over the others, who are apt to become demanding and impatient when it comes to securing an artificial limb. They resort to all manner of excuses to try and hasten manufacture or shorten the training period. When one realizes that an affected limb may have to be re-amputated, or simply that a patient must learn to walk with crutches, one begins to understand why some of them have to remain in Sana'a for as long as six months before they can set out for their village on their two legs.

The Red Cross "home", with its Yemeni beds (a frame of wood and plaited cord), can accommodate between fifteen and

¹ A haven for outlaws and beggars, in Paris during the Middle Ages.



The youngest war casualty, who has been receiving treatment at the Rehabilitation Centre established by the ICRC, is learning to walk.

SANA'A

The artificial limb workshop of the Rehabilitation Centre.





HONDURAS:

The National Red Cross is engaged in a vaccination campaign.

GUATEMALA:

The ICRC delegate checks medicaments received from the ICRC for prisoners in a place of detention.



Photo Vicente, Guatemala

twenty, but we take only those who come from far away and who cannot afford a hotel.

The morning is set aside for men, the afternoon for women. I had the greatest problems with the latter, of course, because they were so shy. At first they would not even allow me to look at what was left of a leg. As for unveiling, that was utterly out of the question. My Yemeni assistant met with still less success than I did. Any harsh word would only have driven them away. Then I decided to ask one of the first women we had equipped with an artificial limb to help. She explained to the women what I wanted and gradually managed to persuade them that to show their legs and do exercises on the ground would not mean any loss of face, but on the contrary would bring on the time when they would once more be able to act as complete human beings. We have no such problems now, for there are always enough former patients about to put newcomers at ease.

At the opposite end of the corridor is the artificial limb workshop. Here fifteen Yemenis (three of them amputees) work with the various materials that go into the making of an artificial limb: wood, metal, leather, plastic. Nearly all of them come from Augaria, in southern Yemen, which boasts the most skilled craftsmen. They have all had to learn a new trade and now they form an extremely lively team, under the supervision of Mr. Gehrels. So thoroughly have they assimilated the new techniques which he has taught them that they are able to make almost any part of a prosthesis out of local materials. Formerly everything had to be imported from Europe.

The Rehabilitation Centre in Sana'a is something essential. Its work must not only be carried on. It must be further developed."

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

MEETING OF RED CROSS LEADERS

As announced at the meeting of the Council of Delegates, Mexico City, October 1971,¹ the International Committee of the Red Cross invited the members of the Standing Commission and the President and Vice-Presidents of the League's Board of Governors to an informal meeting for a study of questions of mutual interest. The meeting was held at Montreux (Switzerland) from 5 to 7 April 1972. There were four items on the agenda:

- What, today, constitutes the strength of the Red Cross; what will its future be; must its objectives and limitations be revised?
- The specific contribution and role of each of the various component bodies of the International Red Cross, namely, the ICRC, the League and the National Societies.
- Co-operation among the various bodies, and ways and means of strengthening the unity of the International Red Cross.
- Red Cross relations and co-operation with governments, inter-governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations.

The presentation and discussion of the various items—and it should be noted that they are interdependent—served to highlight the new conditions under which Red Cross activities are being carried out, particularly in view of the development of the mass media. Nowadays everyone is concerned about disasters and conflicts, wherever they may occur, because news and pictures of such events are instantly broadcast all over the world. Relief supplies pour in from every quarter. Welfare institutions have multiplied and public opinion is watchfully following their various activities.

Never has there been a greater need, when conflicts arise, for a body as impartial and independent as the ICRC, whose uni-

¹ See *International Review*, December 1971.

national composition makes it proof against political pressure. Its specific contribution to the work of the Red Cross and to the international community as a whole lies in the fact that it can act as a neutral intermediary. As several representatives of National Societies observed, while the Societies were governed by the universal principles of the Red Cross, they were also the auxiliaries of their own governments and, as such, could not claim to be totally independent. It was repeatedly urged that National Societies should aim at achieving the highest possible degree of autonomy.

The discretion of the ICRC was also discussed. This is something which public opinion does not wholly understand, considering open condemnation of acts that are contrary to the spirit of humanity as being more fitting. It shows an unawareness of the fact that the concrete results obtained through discreet representations on behalf of prisoners or detainees have proved the effectiveness of the method.

A large part of the strength of the Red Cross, now as in the past, lies in the wide network of National Societies, which covers practically every country and can muster a large number of volunteers within a short time. Stress was laid on the power which volunteers lend to the Red Cross movement. To be effective, this power must be directed by qualified people, another important factor, and must be supported by the League, in its capacity as the federation of National Societies and the organ that promotes their development.

The Red Cross, therefore, is a complex body formed of various components but moved by principles that make for cohesion yet distinguish it from other welfare movements. What is important is to devise methods of organization that will enable each constituent part to shoulder its specific responsibilities in co-operation with the rest, and thus maintain diversity within unity.

The ICRC, for its part, declared that it proposed to seek increasingly the advice and co-operation of National Societies, and one of its members suggested that the Red Cross should study the publications issued by specialized institutes concerned with the study of peace and war, as these were undeniably becoming increasingly scientific. This was a most appropriate field of action for the Red Cross movement as a whole.

At the Montreux meeting, the ICRC suggested that it might join the League in a reappraisal of the role of the Red Cross in the contemporary world. The proposal was warmly welcomed.

Special attention was given to the subject of relief. Although the ICRC takes practically no part in relief action in the case of natural disasters, public opinion, moved by a spirit of international solidarity, is urging National Societies more and more to provide relief for civilian populations in cases of conflict. It so happens that the spectacular and popular role of providing relief in a conflict is accompanied by the ICRC's essential role—a difficult and at times even unpopular one—as neutral intermediary and guardian of Red Cross principles. During hostilities, and in some circumstances even after the end of hostilities, the two roles cannot be dissociated, and that is why responsibility for the action as a whole rests with the ICRC. This shows how important it is to find practical ways and means for the League and National Societies to make their vital contribution to the relief action and at the same time for the ICRC to play its part as a neutral intermediary, and to ensure application of the principles, respect for the emblem, and protection for the personnel involved in the action. One of the members described this as the “neutralization” of relief action. It is all the more urgent to devise such methods of co-operation, since, in their absence, some National Societies might enter into bilateral commitments liable, perhaps, to jeopardize Red Cross unity of action.

Such methods of co-operation should be based, at least in the immediate future, on the Agreement concluded between the League and the ICRC in 1969. It would be a step in the right direction to adopt two concrete measures: the ICRC should associate the League and the National Societies concerned with the preparation of future relief operations; and, once relief action is undertaken, permanent high-level consultations should be held the better to ensure the integration of the assistance furnished by the League and National Societies taking part and to make joint preparations for handing over responsibility for relief operations, if need be, and with League support, to the Society or Societies concerned. This closer co-operation, at a higher level, could be based on a broader interpretation of article 5 of the Agreement; but all participants agreed that that interpretation would in no way alter the premises on

which articles 2 and 3 were based, namely, that in case of a natural disaster responsibility for action would rest with the League, and in case of conflict, with the ICRC. While relief action for the civilian population would be joint where there is conflict, since the League and National Societies would participate with the ICRC, this would not imply a sharing of responsibility.

In the discussion of relations with governments and inter-governmental organizations, the ICRC referred to the close links it maintained with both. Whether in its role of neutral intermediary under the Geneva Conventions or on its own initiative, or as a promoter of international humanitarian law, it was constantly called upon to negotiate with a great many governments and with the United Nations, which was also endeavouring to develop human rights and was now officially entering the field of relief. The fact that the United Nations had created the post of disaster relief co-ordinator could not but affect the activities of the League and the ICRC. Recent experience, however, had shown the existence of a certain degree of complementarity, given the powerful means of the United Nations, on the one hand, and Red Cross adaptability and ICRC independence, on the other.

At the close of the meeting, it was suggested that the advisability of instituting practical measures to facilitate co-operation between the League and the ICRC, such as the pooling of some of their services, should not be neglected.

In conclusion, it may be said that the Montreux meeting enabled Red Cross leaders to gain a better knowledge of the respective functions of the various constituent elements of the Red Cross and the ways in which they complemented each other, and to take a further step towards the goal to which all were striving: to make the Red Cross more effective in the service of suffering mankind, by showing a united front in all circumstances and combining, in the smoothest possible fashion, the various contributions provided by the institutions which compose it.

J.-L. LE FORT
ICRC Secretary-General

**JOINT COMMISSION
OF THE
EMPRESS SHÔKEN FUND
No 63**

Geneva, 11th April 1972

FIFTY-FIRST DISTRIBUTION OF INCOME

The Joint Commission entrusted with the distribution of the income of the Empress Shôken Fund met in Geneva on 15th March 1972. The Japanese Red Cross Society was represented by His Excellency Ambassador Hideo Kitahara.

The Commission noted the statement of accounts and the situation of the Fund as at 31st December 1971 and confirmed that the balance available amounted to Sw. Frs. 104,738.80.

In examining the applications the Joint Commission reviewed the experiences of the past few years. The Commission noted that the criteria (a. b.) it had established for allocation were still valid and added another (c.)—

- a. to restrict the number of allocations and thereby increasing the allocations so as to permit the beneficiary National Societies to implement the plans envisaged;
- b. to uphold only those from developing National Societies unable to have their projects financed otherwise and, among such Societies, whenever feasible those which have hitherto benefited least from assistance from the Shôken Fund;
- c. to refrain from considering the requests from those National Societies which have not conformed to the requirements

under article 5b of the Regulations according to which the beneficiary National Societies are expected to report on the use of the allocations received.

Eleven requests were submitted from 11 National Societies for allocations from the 51st Distribution of income and the Joint Commission decided to make the following allocations based on the above-mentioned criteria:

- Botswana Red Cross Society:* Sw. Frs. 18,000.—
for the purchase of a vehicle for its Health Education Training Programme
- Ceylon Red Cross Society:* Sw. Frs. 15,000.—
for the purchase of an ambulance for its Ambulance Service
- Korean Red Cross Society (Rep.):* Sw. Frs. 10,000.—
for the installation of a freeze-dryer for its Blood Bank
- Pakistan Red Cross Society:* Sw. Frs. 27,000.—
to purchase a fully equipped mobile blood bank unit
- Panama Red Cross Society:* Sw. Frs. 18,000.—
to purchase an ambulance for its Ambulance Service
- Togolese Red Cross Society:* Sw. Frs. 6,000.—
for its anti-TB programme
- Upper Volta Red Cross Society:* Sw. Frs. 7,000.—
for the installation of First Aid posts

The unused balance of Sw. Frs. 3,738.80 will be added to the income available for the 52nd Distribution.

In accordance with article 5b of the Regulations, the beneficiary National Societies are required to report in due course to the Secretariat of the Joint Commission on the use which has been made of the allocations received. The Joint Commission would like this report, accompanied by photographs if possible, to reach it at the latest by the end of the year during which the allocation is used.

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

It furthermore reminds beneficiaries of article 5a of the Regulations which prohibits them assigning the grant for purposes other than those specified without the previous consent of the Commission.

In accordance with the Regulations the 1972 income will be distributed in 1973. To facilitate National Societies to make applications in conformity with the Regulations, the Joint Commission has decided to send, as in the past year, model application forms to all National Societies.

The Joint Commission desires to remind National Societies that such requests must indicate the purposes for which the allocation will be used, in order for them to be considered; they must also, as far as possible, be accompanied by a plan of financing. Requests must be submitted to the Secretariat of the Joint Commission before 31st December 1972.

For the Joint Commission

League of Red Cross Societies

H. Beer

N. Abut

K. Seevaratnam (Secretary)

International Committee of the Red Cross

R. Gallopin (Chairman)

P. Gaillard

(Miss) A. Pfirter

* * *

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

EMPRESS SHÔKEN FUND

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1971

(expressed in Swiss Francs)

ASSETS		LIABILITIES AND OWN FUNDS	
	Sw. Fr.		Sw. Fr.
Government bonds, valued at cost:		Capital:	
Swiss bonds	60,000.—	Balance carried forward from the previous year .	1,805,449.88
market value	55,600.—	Plus:	
Foreign bonds in Swiss Francs	1,696,741.20	Special contributions received in 1971 from the Japanese Government and Japanese Red Cross	125,621.53
market value	1,754,900.—		1,931,071.41
Other foreign bonds . . .	292,990.05		
market value	283,923.—	Provision for loss on investment	76,197.95
	2,094,423.—	Provision for administrative expenses:	
	2,049,731.25	Balance carried forward from the previous year .	1,611.06
Cash at Bank:		Transfer from the income statement as per the statutes	5,491.—
Swiss National Bank, Geneva	22,286.78		7,102.06
Trade Development Bank, Geneva	21,183.65	Less:	
MM. Bordier & Cie, Geneva	20,805.05	Actual administrative expenses for the year 1971	2,848.60
	64,275.48	Excess of income over expenditure for the year ended December 31, 1971	104,738.80
Account receivable, withholding tax recoverable .	2,277.75	Total of own funds . .	2,116,261.62
Current account with the League of Red Cross Societies	2,127.14	Creditors (Allocations to be withdrawn)	2,150.—
	2,118,411.62		2,118,411.62

SITUATION OF SECURITIES AS AT DECEMBER 31, 1971

	NOMINAL VALUE Sw. Fr.	PURCHASE PRICE Sw. Fr.	MARKET VALUE Sw. Fr.	
4 % Canton de Genève 1963/1979	50,000.—	50,000.—	46,000.—	92%
4½ % Crédit foncier Vaudois 1964/1977	10,000.—	10,000.—	9,600.—	96%
5½ % Japan 1964/1979	200,000.—	194,054.—	204,000.—	102%
5½ % Japan 1968/1983	650,000.—	639,295.—	656,500.—	101%
6¼ % Japan Devel. Bank 1970/1985	400,000.—	402,480.—	420,000.—	105%
7 % Asian Devel. Bank 1971/1986	200,000.—	202,804.—	208,000.—	104%
5¼ % Worldbank, Washington 1968/Nov. 1984 .	100,000.—	98,108.—	100,000.—	100%
6½ % Worldbank, Washington 1971/1986	160,000.—	160,000.—	166,400.—	104%
6 % Japan 1964/1979 DM 120,000 =	143,100.— at 119.25	123,473.—	134,514.—	94%
5½ % Japan 1980 US\$ 15,000 =	58,500.— at 3.90	59,616.—	50,310.—	86%
6 % Japan Devel. Bank 1978 US\$ 12,000 =	46,800.— at 3.90	48,989.—	43,524.—	93%
6 % Tokyo 1980 US\$ 15,000 =	58,500.— at 3.90	60,912.—	55,575.—	95%
	2,076,900.—	2,049,731.—	2,094,423.—	

NOTES:

- 1) As from 1.1.1969, the investments are accounted for at their purchase price.
- 2) Compared with the purchase price, the market value shows an appreciation of Sw. Fr. 44,692.—.

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1971

INCOME	Sw. Fr.
Interest income from bonds	82,509.05
Interest in bank deposits	<u>27,312.48</u>
	109,821.53

EXPENSES	
5% of total income above transferred to the Provision for administrative ex- penses (article 7 of the statutes of the Fund)	<u>5,491.—</u>

RESULT	
Excess of income over expenditure for 1971	<u>104,330.53</u>

STATEMENT OF APPROPRIATION

Balance carried forward from previous year 83,108.27

Less:

Fiftieth distribution of income for the
year 1970 to five National Red Cross
Societies, according to the decision
taken by the Joint Commission on
23rd March 1971 (circular No. 62 of
11th April 1971) 82,700.—

Unused balance 408.27

Excess of income over expenditure for the
year 1971 104,330.53

Balance as at December 31, 1971, as per
balance sheet 104,738.80

PRESENTATION OF THE HENRY DUNANT MEDAL

As already announced, the Standing Commission of the International Red Cross, meeting in Mexico City last October, awarded the Henry Dunant Medal, the highest Red Cross distinction, to three outstanding persons: Mr. André François-Poncet, Mrs. Sachiko Hashimoto and Miss Katalin Durgo. The Standing Commission again met, this time in Geneva, on 11 April 1972, and that was when Mrs. Sachiko Hashimoto, Co-chairman of Japanese Junior Red Cross, received the medal from Angela, Countess of Limerick, Chairman of the Commission. As the other two medalists were unable to come to Geneva, they are to receive the award on some other occasion.

At the ceremony, the Chairman of the Standing Commission delivered an address in which she praised the medalist. A few passages are given below:

Since the beginning of her period of service with the Japanese Red Cross in 1948, Mrs. Hashimoto has concentrated on the promotion of world peace through international understanding, and on the dissemination of the Geneva Conventions. It is no exaggeration to say that in its work to disseminate knowledge of the Conventions among young people, the Japanese Red Cross has been among the world leaders. Its achievements in this field have been almost wholly due to the efforts of Mrs. Hashimoto.

Allied with this, she has worked unceasingly for the promotion of the type of international understanding which is the only lasting basis for a peaceful world. The number of imaginative projects by which the youth of Japan have learned more about the rest of the world, and the forms of international activities which they have pioneered, have been outstanding. Mrs. Hashimoto's leadership of the Japanese Youth Goodwill Cruise, which visited seven countries in South East Asia in early 1968, made a tremendous impression on the countries visited,

IN THE RED CROSS WORLD

not to mention the lasting impression made on the participants themselves.

But probably the most significant of all Mrs. Hashimoto's achievements, and the one which has inspired us to nominate her for this award has been the Organization of "Konnichiewa '70"—a technical seminar for young representatives of National Red Cross Societies in the Pacific area, which took place in July, 1970. This seminar was the result of two years of preparation and the far-reaching plans made for follow-up are now in operation. The theme of the seminar—"What are the responsibilities and obligations of Youth to the country and to the world community?" and "What can Youth do through the Red Cross?"—provided many opportunities for a genuine exchange of experiences between young people representing many different cultures but all subscribing to the basic principles and ideals of the Red Cross.

Mrs. Hashimoto in turn spoke. She said how much the high distinction she was being awarded meant to her. She referred to some of the phases of a life which she had largely devoted to Red Cross Youth, and concluded thus:

...I feel so humble and yet full of genuine joy and satisfaction as a Red Cross educator, as the recipient of the Henry Dunant Medal, initiated by the Australian Red Cross which I humbly accept as a good gesture of the big heart of the Standing Commission: now I am very happy and grateful to you all. All my people join me in my expressing the sentiment, including princesses, waiting for my return to see the first one in Japan impatiently. I am rather on their errand to carry it back a long, long way home.

M I S C E L L A N E O U S

THE TASKS OF THE SANITARY ENGINEER

With the pollution problem now facing the world, it has become essential that engineers, public health officers and epidemiologists should co-operate. In its review¹, the World Health Organization has published a study on the training of environmental health experts, and we give a few excerpts below.

The term "sanitary engineer" means different things to different people. It may mean an engineer specializing in the design, construction, operation, and management of sanitary facilities such as water and sewage treatment works or wastes collection and disposal. In other situations it may refer to an engineer with specialized training in other environmental health areas such as air and water pollution, vector control, or housing. Basically, however, the term refers to an engineer "who is trained in techniques that permit him to advise upon, administer, supervise or otherwise conduct professional and scientific work where the use of engineering knowledge and skills is essential for identification and control of environmental factors that may produce a detrimental effect on the physical, mental or social well-being of man".

Numerous changes in man's relationship to his environment, due to the rapid development of technology, population growth, industrialization, and urbanization, have given rise to a new concept of environmental health. The scope of the engineer is consequently expanding from environmental sanitation, which related principally to the provision of safe water supplies and sanitary wastes disposal facilities, to a wider spectrum of activities such as those concerned with environmental pollution, which impairs the health and well-being of people. It is essential that environmental

¹ WHO Chronicle, Geneva, Vol. 25, No. 1.

health workers should continue to be concerned with the prevention of communicable diseases; at the same time, however, they must assume responsibility for reversing the tendency of man to spoil his environment, and they must aim at preserving a healthy environment for future generations.

It is clear that a development of this kind will have a major impact on the training of sanitary engineers, as well as on that of other specialized professionals who are concerned with the environment, its impact on health, and its amelioration through precautionary and remedial action. . .

Man's relationship to his environment changes constantly and needs unceasing surveillance and control. The causes of these changes are readily discernible and include population growth, uncontrolled urbanization, accelerated industrialization, the rapid development of technology, and man's increasing demands as his standard of living rises. In the process of change the human and social elements are becoming more and more important. Therefore, to deal efficiently with environmental problems, a very broadly educated sanitary engineer is required.

Environmental health depends on the co-operation of engineers, public health officers, epidemiologists, and planners, all of whom share the ultimate responsibility for the shape and character of the human environment.

The unit approach of the past, in which individual components are designed and then integrated into the system, often resulting in a poor balance between components, is giving way to a systems approach in which a system is considered as a whole.

In system analysis, the humanities and social sciences play an important role, and engineers must have a much better understanding of human wants, goals, and aspirations. Economic, political, and administrative problems are obviously involved in work of this nature. Engineers in general are well prepared to study these fields in more depth because the history of engineering is a history of dealing with the wants of large communities.

While the humanities and social sciences are recognized as essential in providing this professional understanding, they can no longer be taught as a random assortment of subjects but must be presented in a carefully planned series of courses.

A background in both environmental control and public health will enable the sanitary engineer to keep health criteria to the forefront in the planning and execution of environmental health projects. Health criteria are essentially planning criteria, and the health needs of the community are inextricably interwoven with the long-range resource development plans that have to be formulated.

TWO STUDIES ON THE PROTECTION OF WAR VICTIMS

In two recent numbers, the Revue belge de Droit international (Belgian Review of International Law) ¹ has published studies by ICRC legal advisers on the protection of various categories of war victims. The first, by Mr. Michel Veuthey and entitled « Règles et principes de droit international humanitaire applicable dans la guérilla » (Rules and Principles of International Humanitarian Law applicable in Guerrilla Warfare), may be summarized as follows :

Guerrilla warfare is a very old method of fighting, despite the fact that its modern name is as recent as the Spanish people's resistance to Napoleon's troops. Until the present day, the laws of war have tended to ignore, if not censure this method, which, considering its practical and theoretical development in the twentieth century, has condemned the law to impotence or uselessness in the majority of modern conflicts.

The law (meaning the 1949 Geneva Conventions and the 1907 Hague Conventions) must be adapted both in this form of warfare and in the conventional kind, so as to shield the victims from the unrestricted spread of hostilities. What happens to combatants and civilians, the methods of fighting and a set of model rules

¹ Brussels, 1971, No. VII (2) and 1972, No. VIII (1).

are examined in turn, with close reference to the latest developments in the law both in the United Nations and in the conferences organized by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The second of these two studies is by Mr. Jean Mirimanoﬀ-Chilikine. It is entitled Protection de la population et des personnes civiles contre les dangers résultant des opérations militaires (Protection of the Population and Civilians against the Dangers Arising from Military Operations). The main points are as follows :

The Geneva Convention of 12 August 1949 relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War deals mainly with occupied territories. To find out what are the obligations of belligerents towards the civilian population during hostilities, the only points of reference have, to this day, been the frequently outmoded provisions of the 1907 Hague Conventions and the oft contested principles of customary laws.

In order to catch up with the evolution of the means and technology of warfare, the ICRC, in 1956, drew up " Draft Rules for the Limitation of the Dangers Incurred by the Civilian Population in Time of War " applicable in all armed conflicts. It was greeted with favour at the time, but only as a formulation of principles.

This study, which appeared in the last two numbers of the *Revue belge de Droit international*, sets out the main problems in the way of providing better protection for civilians and their property in every conceivable war situation (conventional and guerrilla warfare, blockade, economic warfare, etc.). The proposals made by the ICRC in 1971 for a protocol on the protection of civilians are also examined in the light of the latest developments both in the United Nations and at the first conferences on the reaffirmation and development of international humanitarian law applicable in armed conflicts.

EXTRACT FROM THE STATUTES OF
THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

(AGREED AND AMENDED ON 25 SEPTEMBER 1952)

ART. 1. — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), founded in Geneva in 1863 and formally recognized in the Geneva Conventions and by International Conferences of the Red Cross, shall be an independent organization having its own Statutes.

It shall be a constituent part of the International Red Cross.¹

ART. 2. — As an association governed by Articles 60 and following of the Swiss Civil Code, the ICRC shall have legal personality.

ART. 3. — The headquarters of the ICRC shall be in Geneva.

Its emblem shall be a red cross on a white ground. Its motto shall be "Inter arma caritas".

ART. 4. — The special role of the ICRC shall be:

- (a) to maintain the fundamental and permanent principles of the Red Cross, namely: impartiality, action independent of any racial, political, religious or economic considerations, the universality of the Red Cross and the equality of the National Red Cross Societies;
- (b) to recognize any newly established or reconstituted National Red Cross Society which fulfils the conditions for recognition in force, and to notify other National Societies of such recognition;

¹ The International Red Cross comprises the National Red Cross Societies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies. The term "National Red Cross Societies" includes the Red Crescent Societies and the Red Lion and Sun Society.

- (c) to undertake the tasks incumbent on it under the Geneva Conventions, to work for the faithful application of these Conventions and to take cognizance of any complaints regarding alleged breaches of the humanitarian Conventions;
- (d) to take action in its capacity as a neutral institution, especially in case of war, civil war or internal strife; to endeavour to ensure at all times that the military and civilian victims of such conflicts and of their direct results receive protection and assistance, and to serve, in humanitarian matters, as an intermediary between the parties;
- (e) to contribute, in view of such conflicts, to the preparation and development of medical personnel and medical equipment, in co-operation with the Red Cross organizations, the medical services of the armed forces, and other competent authorities;
- (f) to work for the continual improvement of humanitarian international law and for the better understanding and diffusion of the Geneva Conventions and to prepare for their possible extension;
- (g) to accept the mandates entrusted to it by the International Conferences of the Red Cross.

The ICRC may also take any humanitarian initiative which comes within its role as a specifically neutral and independent institution and consider any questions requiring examination by such an institution.

ART. 6 (first paragraph). — The ICRC shall co-opt its members from among Swiss citizens. The number of members may not exceed twenty-five.



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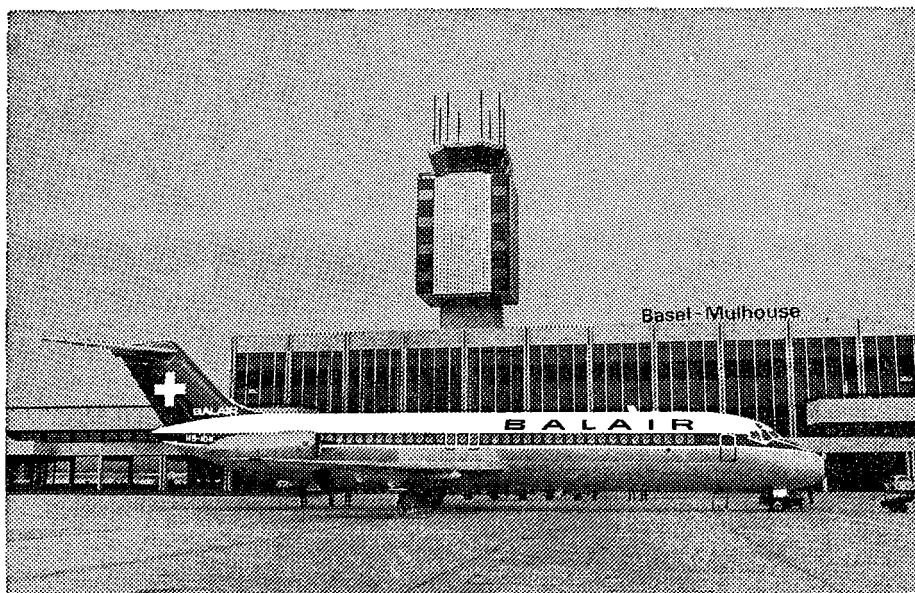
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ADDRESSES OF NATIONAL SOCIETIES

- AFGHANISTAN — Afghan Red Crescent, Puli Artan, *Kabul*.
- ALBANIA — Albanian Red Cross, 35, Rruga e Barrikadavet, *Tirana*.
- ALGERIA — Central Committee of the Algerian Red Crescent Society, 15 bis, Boulevard Mohamed V, *Algiers*.
- ARGENTINA — Argentine Red Cross, H. Yrigoyen 2068, *Buenos Aires*.
- AUSTRALIA — Australian Red Cross, 122-128 Flinders Street, *Melbourne, C. 1*.
- AUSTRIA — Austrian Red Cross, 3 Gusshausstrasse, Postfach 39, *Vienna IV*.
- BELGIUM — Belgian Red Cross, 98 Chaussée de Vleurgat, *Brussels 5*.
- BOLIVIA — Bolivian Red Cross, Avenida Simón Bolívar, 1515 (Casilla 741), *La Paz*.
- BOTSWANA — Botswana Red Cross Society, Independence Avenue, P.O. Box 485, *Gaborone*.
- BRAZIL — Brazilian Red Cross, Praça Cruz Vermelha 10-12, *Rio de Janeiro*.
- BULGARIA — Bulgarian Red Cross, 1, Boul. S. S. Biruzov, *Sofia*.
- BURMA — Burma Red Cross, 42 Strand Road, Red Cross Building, *Rangoon*.
- BURUNDI — Red Cross Society of Burundi, rue du Marché 3, P.O. Box 324, *Bujumbura*.
- CAMEROON — Central Committee of the Cameroon Red Cross Society, rue Henry-Dunant, P.O.B. 631, *Yaoundé*.
- CANADA — Canadian Red Cross, 95 Wellesley Street, East, *Toronto 284 (Ontario)*.
- CEYLON — Ceylon Red Cross, 106 Dharmapala Mawatha, *Colombo VII*.
- CHILE — Chilean Red Cross, Avenida Santa María 0150, Correo 21, Casilla 246V., *Santiago de Chile*.
- CHINA — Red Cross Society of China, 22 Kanmien Hutung, *Peking, E*.
- COLOMBIA — Colombian Red Cross, Carrera 7a, 34-65, Apartado nacional 1110, *Bogotá D.E.*
- COSTA RICA — Costa Rican Red Cross, Calle 5a, Apartado 1025, *San José*.
- CUBA — Cuban Red Cross, Calle 23 201 esq. N. Vedado, *Havana*.
- CZECHOSLOVAKIA — Czechoslovak Red Cross, Thunovska 18, *Prague I*.
- DAHOMEY — Red Cross Society of Dahomey, P.O. Box 1, *Porto Novo*.
- DENMARK — Danish Red Cross, Ny Vestergade 17, *Copenhagen K*.
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC — Dominican Red Cross, Calle Juan Enrique Dunant, Ensanche Miraflores, Apartado Postal 1293, *Santo Domingo*.
- ECUADOR — Ecuadorian Red Cross, Calle de la Cruz Roja y Avenida Colombia 118, *Quito*.
- EGYPT (Arab Republic of) — Egyptian Red Crescent Society, 34 rue Ramses, *Cairo*.
- EL SALVADOR — El Salvador Red Cross, 3a Avenida Norte y 3a Calle Poniente 21, *San Salvador*.
- ETHIOPIA — Ethiopian Red Cross, Red Cross Road No. 1, P.O. Box 195, *Addis Ababa*.
- FINLAND — Finnish Red Cross, Tehtaankatu 1 A, Box 14168, *Helsinki 14*.
- FRANCE — French Red Cross, 17 rue Quentin Bauchart, *Paris (8^e)*.
- GERMANY (Dem. Republic) — German Red Cross in the German Democratic Republic, Kaitzerstrasse 2, Dx 801 *Dresden 1*.
- GERMANY (Federal Republic) — German Red Cross in the Federal Republic of Germany, Friedrich-Ebert-Allee 71, 5300, *Bonn 1*, Postfach (D.B.R.).
- GHANA — Ghana Red Cross, National Headquarters, Ministries Annex A3, P.O. Box 835, *Accra*.
- GREAT BRITAIN — British Red Cross, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, *London, S.W.1 X 7EJ*.
- GREECE — Hellenic Red Cross, rue Lycavittou 1, *Athens 135*.
- GUATEMALA — Guatemalan Red Cross, 3^a Calle 8-40, Zona 1, *Ciudad Guatemala*.
- GUYANA — Guyana Red Cross, P.O. Box 351, Eve Leary, *Georgetown*.
- HAITI — Haiti Red Cross, Place des Nations Unies, B.P. 1337, *Port-au-Prince*.
- HONDURAS — Honduran Red Cross, Calle Henry Dunant 516, *Tegucigalpa*.
- HUNGARY — Hungarian Red Cross, Arany Janos utca 31, *Budapest V*.
- ICELAND — Icelandic Red Cross, Øldugötu 4, Post Box 872, *Reykjavik*.
- INDIA — Indian Red Cross, 1 Red Cross Road, *New Delhi 1*.
- INDONESIA — Indonesian Red Cross, Djalan Abdulmuis 66, P.O. Box 2009, *Djakarta*.
- IRAN — Iranian Red Lion and Sun Society, Avenue Ark, *Tehran*.
- IRAQ — Iraqi Red Crescent, Al-Mansour Baghdad.
- IRELAND — Irish Red Cross, 16 Merrion Square, *Dublin 2*.
- ITALY — Italian Red Cross, 12 via Toscana, *Rome*.
- IVORY COAST — Ivory Coast Red Cross Society, B.P. 1244, *Abidjan*.
- JAMAICA — Jamaica Red Cross Society, 76 Arnold Road, *Kingston 5*.
- JAPAN — Japanese Red Cross, 1-1-5 Shiba Daimon, Minato-Ku, *Tokyo 105*.
- JORDAN — Jordan National Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 10 001, *Amman*.
- KENYA — Kenya Red Cross Society, St Johns Gate, P.O. Box 40712, *Nairobi*.
- KHMER REPUBLIC — Khmer Red Cross, 17 Vithei Croix-Rouge khmère, P.O.B. 94, *Phnom-Penh*.
- KOREA (Democratic People's Republic) — Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, *Pyongyang*.
- KOREA (Republic) — The Republic of Korea National Red Cross, 32-3 Ka Nam San-Donk, *Seoul*.
- KUWAIT — Kuwait Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 1359, *Kuwait*.

ADDRESSES OF NATIONAL SOCIETIES

- LAOS — Lao Red Cross, P.B. 650, *Vientiane*.
- LEBANON — Lebanese Red Cross, rue Général Spears, *Beirut*.
- LESOTHO — Lesotho Red Cross Society, P.O. Box 366, *Maseru*.
- LIBERIA — Liberian National Red Cross, National Headquarters, 107 Lynch Street, P.O. Box 226, *Monrovia*.
- LIBYAN ARAB REPUBLIC — Libyan Red Crescent, Berka Omar Mukhtar Street, P.O. Box 541, *Benghazi*.
- LIECHTENSTEIN — Liechtenstein Red Cross, FL-9490 *Vaduz*.
- LUXEMBOURG — Luxembourg Red Cross, Parc de la Ville, C.P. 1806, *Luxembourg*.
- MADAGASCAR — Red Cross Society of Madagascar, rue Clémenceau, P.O. Box 1168, *Tananarive*.
- MALAWI — Malawi Red Cross, Hall Road, Box 247, *Blantyre*.
- MALAYSIA — Malaysian Red Cross Society, 519 Jalan Belfield, *Kuala Lumpur*.
- MALI — Mali Red Cross, B.P. 280, route de Koulikora, *Bamako*.
- MEXICO — Mexican Red Cross, Avenida Ejército Nacional n° 1032, *México 10, D.F.*
- MONACO — Red Cross of Monaco, 27 boul. de Suisse, *Monte Carlo*.
- MONGOLIA — Red Cross Society of the Mongolian People's Republic, Central Post Office, Post Box 537, *Ulan Bator*.
- MOROCCO — Moroccan Red Crescent, rue Benzakour, B.P. 189, *Rabat*.
- NEPAL — Nepal Red Cross Society, Tripureswar, P.B. 217, *Kathmandu*.
- NETHERLANDS — Netherlands Red Cross, 27 Prinsessegracht, *The Hague*.
- NEW ZEALAND — New Zealand Red Cross, Red Cross House, 14, Hill Street, *Wellington 1*. (P.O. Box 12-140, *Wellington North*).
- NICARAGUA — Nicaraguan Red Cross, 12 Avenida Noroeste 305, *Managua, D.N.*
- NIGER — Red Cross Society of Niger, B.P. 386, *Niamey*.
- NIGERIA — Nigerian Red Cross Society, Eko Akete Close, off St. Gregory Rd., Onikan, P.O. Box 764, *Lagos*.
- NORWAY — Norwegian Red Cross, Parkveien 33b, *Oslo*.
- PAKISTAN — Pakistan Red Cross, Dr Dawood Pota Road, *Karachi 4*.
- PANAMA — Panamanian Red Cross, Apartado 668, Zona 1, *Panamá*.
- PARAGUAY — Paraguayan Red Cross, calle André Barbero y Artigas 33, *Asunción*.
- PERU — Peruvian Red Cross, Jirón Chancay 881, *Lima*.
- PHILIPPINES — Philippine National Red Cross, 860 United Nations Avenue, P.O.B. 280, *Manila D-406*.
- POLAND — Polish Red Cross, Mokotowska 14, *Warsaw*.
- PORTUGAL — Portuguese Red Cross, Jardim 9 de Abril, 1 a 5, *Lisbon 3*.
- ROMANIA — Red Cross of the Socialist Republic of Romania, Strada Biserica Amzei 29, *Bucarest*.
- SAN MARINO — San Marino Red Cross, Palais gouvernemental, *San Marino*.
- SAUDI ARABIA — Saudi Arabian Red Crescent, *Riyadh*.
- SENEGAL — Senegalese Red Cross Society, Bld. Franklin-Roosevelt, P.O.B. 299, *Dakar*.
- SIERRA LEONE — Sierra Leone Red Cross Society, 6 Liverpool Street, P.O.B. 427, *Freetown*.
- SOMALI REPUBLIC — Somali Red Crescent Society, P.O. Box 937, *Mogadishu*.
- SOUTH AFRICA — South African Red Cross, Cor. Kruis & Market Streets, P.O.B. 8726, *Johannesburg*.
- SPAIN — Spanish Red Cross, Eduardo Dato 16, *Madrid 10*.
- SUDAN — Sudanese Red Crescent, P.O. Box 235, *Khartoum*.
- SWEDEN — Swedish Red Cross, Artillerigatan 6, 10440, *Stockholm 14*.
- SWITZERLAND — Swiss Red Cross, Taubenstrasse 8, B.P. 2699, *3001 Berne*.
- SYRIA — Syrian Red Crescent, Bd Mahdi Ben Barake, *Damascus*.
- TANZANIA — Tanganyika Red Cross Society, Upanga Road, P.O.B. 1133, *Dar es Salaam*.
- THAILAND — Thai Red Cross Society, King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital, *Bangkok*.
- TOGO — Togolese Red Cross Society, 51, rue Boko Soga, P.O. Box 655, *Lomé*.
- TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO — Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society, 105, Woodford Street, P.O. Box 357, *Port of Spain*.
- TUNISIA — Tunisian Red Crescent, 19 rue d'Angleterre, *Tunis*.
- TURKEY — Turkish Red Crescent, Yenisehir, *Ankara*.
- UGANDA — Uganda Red Cross, Nabunya Road, P.O. Box 494, *Kampala*.
- UPPER VOLTA — Upper Volta Red Cross, P.O.B. 340, *Ouagadougou*.
- URUGUAY — Uruguayan Red Cross, Avenida 8 de Octubre 2990, *Montevideo*.
- U.S.A. — American National Red Cross, 17th and D Streets, N.W., *Washington 6, D.C.*
- U.S.S.R. — Alliance of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Tcheremushki, J. Tcheremushkinskii proezd 5, *Moscow W-36*.
- VENEZUELA — Venezuelan Red Cross, Avenida Andrés Bello No. 4, Apart. 3185, *Caracas*.
- VIET NAM (Democratic Republic) — Red Cross of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, 68 rue Bà-Triệu, *Hanoi*.
- VIET NAM (Republic) — Red Cross of the Republic of Viet Nam, 201 duong Hồng-Thập-Tu, No. 201, *Saigon*.
- YUGOSLAVIA — Yugoslav Red Cross, Simina ulica broj 19, *Belgrade*.
- ZAIRE (Republic of) — Red Cross of the Republic of Zaire, 41 av. de la Justice, P.O. Box 1712, *Kinshasa*.
- ZAMBIA — Zambia Red Cross, P.O. Box R.W.1, Ridgeway, *Lusaka*.